

Texas Computer Education Association's Superintendent of the Year Award

Keller ISD Superintendent Dr. James Veitenheimer was named Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Computer Education Association. The award is presented to a superintendent who recognizes the importance of technology in the teaching and learning process and actively promotes the use of technology throughout the district.

The TCEA Superintendent of the Year award is open to all district superintendents in the state of Texas whose primary job must be acting as the superintendent of his/her district. The three finalists for this award were invited to attend the TCEA Convention last week in Austin at which the award was announced. Dr. Veitenheimer was presented an engraved plaque and a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior of his choice.

January Community of Character Students of the Month

Friendship Elementary School 4th graders Abby Mulhollen, Rylee Frazier, Emily Fernandez, Brooke Woodson, and Trinity Koemel have all been named as Keller ISD Community of Character Students of the Month for January. The character trait for January was Respect.

Class 5A All-State Volleyball Team Recognition by the Texas Girls Coaches Association

The Texas Girls Coaches Association named Central High School's Caylin Mahoney to its Class 5A All-State Volleyball Team. The junior setter is the first Central volleyball player to receive the honor. In 41 matches last season, Mahoney averaged 10.6 assists, 2.7 kills and 3.45 digs per game. In addition to being named All-State, Mahoney was recognized as an All-Area Player by the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and the *Dallas Morning News*. Mahoney helped Central capture the 2009 District 5-5A championship with a perfect 14-0 record in district play. The TGCA All-State Volleyball team was named last fall and included the top 30 athletes in each University Interscholastic League classification.

Title I, Part A Distinguished Performance Awards by the TEA's NCLB Division

North Riverside Elementary School (Robyn Gibson, Principal) and Parkview Elementary School (Doreen Krebs, Principal) both received the Title I, Part A Distinguished Performance Award for the 2009-10 school year by the Division of No Child Left Behind Program Coordination at the Texas Education Agency. This prestigious designation recognizes schools that have consistently demonstrated strong academic performances over a three-year period. These Title I, Part A schools achieved the Academically Exemplary rating for the present school year and have a residing population of 40% or more low income students, as reported on NCLB Consolidated Application for Federal Funding. The primary function of NCLB is to close the achievement gap between groups of students by requiring greater accountability and offering increased flexibility and choice.

Texas All-State Musicians Recognition by the Texas Music Educators Association

In January, Keller ISD high school choir and band members competed in the final round of the Texas Music Educators Association's All-State auditions in Abilene. While 55,000 students initially entered the All-State competitive process in September, only one-half of one percent actually receives the prestigious honor of being named as a Texas All-State Musician.

Travis Threlkeld, Chrystle Hicks, Patricia Krecklow and alternate Kinsey Moline are the Central High School Choir students who earned a place in the Texas All-State Choir. They are under the direction of Leigh Ann McClure.

Taylor Barnes, Kelsey Harper, Sterling Kohout, Diana Mabie, and Stephanie Peterson are the Keller High Choir students who earned a place in the Texas All-State Choir. They are under the direction of Chi Chi King.

Laurel Roseborrough and Andrew Gallop are the Keller High School Band students who earned a place with the Texas All-State Band and Orchestra.

All-State performances were held as part of the annual TMEA Convention, the nation's largest music educator's convention, earlier this month. Over 24,000 people from Texas and beyond attended over 290 workshops, 65 concerts and visited over 1,000 exhibit booths.

January Heart at Work Winner

Sonia Riviera, a Custodian at Freedom Elementary School has been selected as the Heart at Work winner for January. Sonia was nominated by FRES Fine Arts teacher Kelly Iverson, for *"always working extremely hard... Every time I see her she is cleaning... Sonia does a wonderful job keeping the school looking nice and clean during the time she is at Freedom... Anytime I ask Sonia for her help she stops what she is doing and helps me right away."*

Check Presentation by Heather Hughes, Director of Special Education

Keller ISD has a strong partnership with the Keller Youth Association. This is the second year KYA has donated funds to Keller ISD's Special Olympics Program with the goal of recognizing athletic opportunities for all students.

Awards Announcement by Vicki Burris, KISD Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Keller ISD was recently awarded the Indoor Air Quality *Tools for Schools* National Excellence Award by the Environmental Protection Agency (trophy presented).

The design for Basswood Elementary School, the district's 21st elementary facility, was recently recognized as a Merit Award winner by the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (plaque presented).